



THE OKLAHOMA TIMES



VOL. XXVII No. 107

OKLAHOMA CITY, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1915

PRICE ONE CENT

SEA OVERWHELMS GALVESTON--SCORES OF LIVES LOST--CITIES ON GULF WIND TORN

Outside World Powerless to Help or Ascertain Extent of Storm's Ravage—Galveston Has Been Cut Off From Mainland Since Monday—Houston, Herself Immense Sufferer, Flounders Thru Swept Area Trying to Help Sister Towns.

HOUSTON, Tex., Aug. 18.—Five thousand refugees from Galveston are in Houston, coming over on special interurbans and trains during Monday afternoon after storm warnings had been issued. It is rather thought here that Galveston's sea wall and causeway acted as buffers and prevented at any rate, a wholesale destruction of human life. Notwithstanding, gravest fears are generally expressed and Houston, in spite of its own disaster, is bowed with apprehension over the unknown fate of its sister city.

The storm here raged without intermission from 7:30 p. m. to 5 a. m.

HOUSTON, Aug. 17.—By mail to Dallas, Aug. 18.—Though only one person, a negro, lost his life, Houston has sustained a loss estimated at from two to five million dollars in the worst tropical storm in the history of the Texas coast.

Not a single business house, not a single residence escaped damage at 4:30 this morning, when the storm reached its height, the barometer fell to 28.21, the third lowest reading in the history of the world. At that time wind puffs attained the terrific velocity of 90 miles.

CHICAGO, Aug. 18.—The bodies of seven drowned persons have been recovered at Hitchcock, Texas, just north of Galveston, according to a telegram today from W. E. Marston, general superintendent of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad at Galveston, now at Hitchcock, to the general offices here.

DALLAS, Texas, Aug. 18.—Scores are said to have perished in the West Indian hurricane that swept Texas coast points in roundabout reports received here today from points in the stricken district.

Eighteen soldiers, it is said, were killed at Texas City, the regular army camp near Galveston, and 30 or 40 civilians also are reported dead.

Six deaths are reported from La Porte, Texas, eight from Morgan's Point and three from Sylvan Beach.

Between fifty and sixty soldiers are said to have been injured at Texas City.

Three are reported lost at Seabrook, near Houston.

According to the Houston Chronicle, a copy of which has reached Temple, Texas, J. R. Montgomery, a correspondent of the Chronicle who viewed Galveston from the shore point of the wrecked causeway, the property damage at Galveston will exceed that of the 1900 storm.

Storm damage at Houston, according to the Chronicle, which was issued Tuesday afternoon, is estimated at \$1,000,000, but no mention is made of loss of life.

Eight of the soldiers killed at Texas City were caught under the ruins of the Thompson building, a three and a half story brick structure. The others were drowned. Most of the two score odd civilians who perished were women and children. Military rule has been established at Texas City.

AUSTIN, Texas, Aug. 18.—While state militia officials sought to communicate with Galveston today, tents, blankets and cots were ready in the adjutant general's department for shipment to Houston or Galveston for the use of the storm refugees as soon as the needs of the sufferers can be ascertained, the adjutant general says.

Governor Ferguson took up the matter of relief for Galveston with the adjutant general's department Tuesday and efforts were then made to find what was needed.

BEAUMONT, Tex., Aug. 18.—Three men and one woman were killed, almost the entire population made homeless and property damage estimated at more than \$200,000 constitutes the toll of the tropical storm which struck Port Arthur, 20 miles from here, Monday night.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—The weather bulletin issued today reads: "Reports from southeast Texas are still in issue, but a report 24 hours old from Houston by mail and telegraph via Taylor, Texas, states that the storm center apparently passed south of Houston early Tuesday morning. The lowest barometer reading at Houston was 28.21 at 5:30 a. m. and the highest wind velocity eighty miles an hour from the northeast. The total rainfall in 24 hours was 7.18 inches.

"The damage was enormous. Neither wires nor trains have left Galveston since Monday evening."

AUSTIN, Texas, Aug. 18.—The midnight edition of the Houston Post says Texas City has sustained a severe blow as the result of the hurricane which swept the gulf coast, an approximate damage of \$400,000 being done there but only 18 lives were lost.

Information to this effect was brought to Houston Tuesday night by E. V. Rhodes, superintendent of the terminals for the Texas City company, who left Texas City at four o'clock Tuesday afternoon and was relayed by four automobiles.

HOUSTON, Tex., Aug. 18.—via Telephone to Temple.—The Houston Chronicle prints the following interview with J. R. Montgomery, a Houston correspondent of the Galveston News. The got as

GULF FLOOD SUMMARIZED

"I am confident the number of dead in Galveston is large," said first newspaper correspondent to reach north end of Galveston causeway. "Number of buildings destroyed will run into thousands."

Eight bodies, Galveston women, washed ashore at Texas City, according to E. V. Rhodes, bearer of appeal for aid from Texas City.

All elevators on Galveston bay front demolished.

Galveston property loss probably will exceed that sustained in 1900 tidal flood.

Texas state officials preparing to rush tents and supplies into storm-ridden district.

Fifteen to twenty-five percent of central Texas crop ruined; loss will run into millions.

Known dead approximately eighty.

Eighteen soldiers killed at Texas City and 30 to 40 civilians also reported dead. Between fifty and sixty soldiers injured.

Six deaths reported from La Porte, Texas, eight from Morgan's Point, three from Sylvan Beach, and two at Houston.

Seabrook and Kemah on the coast practically annihilated.

Houston under martial law to prevent looting. Damage there may run to \$5,000,000.

All wire communication with Houston and Galveston interrupted. No person from the mainland had crossed the bay onto Galveston island at one o'clock today. Causeway drawbridge and approaches torn out.

News coming from Houston newspapers which have reached north Texas and by refugees who have escaped in automobiles.

far as Virginia Point, the north end of the causeway, Tuesday and viewed the wrecked city of Galveston.

"I am confident the number of dead in Galveston is large. I could not see an elevator on the port side of the city and my opinion is that the number of buildings destroyed will run into the thousands."

"I believe the property loss will be greater than that of 1900."

Montgomery made his way to the drawbridge of the Galveston causeway and owing to the fact that this structure was swept away he was forced to return to Houston. The man made the trip in an automobile.

"We encountered indescribable conditions," he said. "The road bridges at Clear Creek and Dickinson were washed out and we ran our automobile over the railroad bridges and across the ties."

"We saw thousands of piles of cotton on the prairie all the way from Virginia Point (the mainland end of Galveston causeway) to the town of Lamarque, far inland. These were washed from Galveston docks by the great tidal wave."

"The water must have been several feet over the causeway and serious damage must have been done to it by the washing out of large quantities of filling in the center."

The Chronicle also reported that it received information that fifty persons are dead at Texas City, but accounts for only 12 soldiers who perished when the Thompson building at Texas City collapsed. It is said these were all private soldiers, no commissioned officers having lost their lives.

The railroad drawbridge has been washed away at Seabrook, about 20 miles from Houston. Three persons are reported to have lost their lives at that point.

Mr. Montgomery described conditions along the prairie similar to those that obtained in the 1900 storm.

"We saw thousands of dead animals along the way," he said.

He said that he could see the buildings at Fort Crockett. All seemed intact. He could recognize some of the tall buildings in the city with which he was familiar, but was most impressed with the gravity of the situation by the fact that the grain elevators were gone.

WACO, Texas, Aug. 18.—"The first rumor to reach Houston was that between 200 and 250 soldiers were drowned, but this report was denied by A. H. Doty and T. J. Moran, who reached Houston late Tuesday after making a trip to Texas City in an automobile on the railroad track. They said only 12 soldiers lost their lives and perhaps three as many were injured."

MORGAN'S POINT, Texas, Aug. 18.—Eight men are reported dead near this point. They were drowned while fishing. Reports reached here from an authentic source that the bodies of a woman, a baby and a sailor had beached near Sylvan Beach. They were unidentified and apparently had floated from some place on the bay.

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, Aug. 18.—A copy of the Houston Chronicle, issued at 3:30 Tuesday afternoon received here early today estimates the storm damage in that city at about \$1,000,000. No mention is made of loss of life in Houston, but it is stated six persons were drowned at Laporte, 20 miles southeast of Houston, on Trinity bay.

AUSTIN, Texas, Aug. 18.—The first edition of the Houston papers to reach Austin since the storm of Monday night came here Wednesday morning. Their information as to conditions at Galveston is not complete as neither the Chronicle nor the Post has been able to get a man into Galveston.

Seabrook is said by both papers to have been practically annihilated so far as houses are concerned.

The Houston Post carries an appeal from H. B. Moore for food and supplies for the civilian population at Texas City to be sent to Major General J. Franklin Bell, U. S. A., who is commanding at Texas City.

At Kemah, on the coast, only one house has been left standing, according to Frank Annette of Seabrook, who escaped from the storm at Seabrook and made his way to Houston.

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, Aug. 18.—Point Isabel which yesterday was reported to have been flooded, is safe, according to a special news dispatch received today. The storm is said to have done little damage on the coast from Corpus Christi to Brownsville and no lives were reported lost.

AUSTIN, Texas, Aug. 18.—Having failed to obtain any direct information from Galveston on the situation there, Governor Ferguson today decided to make a personal investigation of the conditions prevailing on Galveston island and is now preparing to leave for Houston. The governor is determined that the state shall render all assistance possible to Galveston, should the seriousness of the situation warrant such action.

WACO, Texas, Aug. 18.—This morning Mayor J. W. Higgins issued a call for a mass meeting to be held this afternoon for the purpose of aiding the people of Galveston.

BROWNSVILLE, Texas, Aug. 18.—The army wireless station here today in attempting to reach Galveston via the wireless, heard the United States army transport Buford say that the Buford "had a talk with a ship in distress."

The officers of the Twenty-fourth infantry here, nearly all of whom have their families in Texas City, have been trying for nearly two days to get some word by wireless of the situation there in the second division army camp. But they have obtained absolutely nothing. The Twenty-sixth infantry left Texas City for Brownsville two days before the storm.

AUSTIN, Texas, Aug. 18.—The Texas National Guard may also be called out to assist in relief work at Galveston, but no orders will be issued until after a personal investigation is made by Colonel Malesmunt.

It was made plain today that the people of Texas may as well hold themselves in readiness to respond to aid, for he intends to leave a state-wide appeal for assistance for Galveston.

Oklahoma Cityans Now in Galveston

Many Oklahoma City people are reported to be in Galveston. A. W. Dunn, Santa Fe agent here for over ten years, is at present superintendent of the Santa Fe terminal station at Galveston.

City Engineer Guy McClure reports that Mrs. M. E. McClure and James H. McClure, mother and brother of Mrs. McClure, are spending the summer in Galveston. No word has been received from them.

Mr. L. Crother is also believed to be in Galveston, though no word has been received from him.

Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Bridges of 1117 North Hudson, parents of Mrs. James Dunn of the same address, are among the Oklahoma City people in Galveston. Mr. and Mrs. Bridges went to Galveston a week ago to spend the month of August, and were living out near the beach.

Mrs. Fred O. Harris and little daughter Margery of 18 Broadway Circle, are also in the stricken city, but were located in a district that was higher and further from the beach.

R. F. Ivey of the Harris-Ivey Cotton company, was last heard from in Galveston.

Recounts 1900 Experience

"Galveston's present, or recent flood, started in exactly the same way as did the awful one of 1900, but the sea wall seems to have prevented any such catastrophe as happened at that time," said Mike Williams, assistant state labor commissioner, who was present during the whole dreadful time of the first great inundation.

"I was employed in a big printing shop on Mechanics street, and remember distinctly that the town near the bay was several feet under water on the afternoon of September 8. The wind and water at that time were coming in from the bay, but at about 9 o'clock the wind switched and started to come from the gulf side. Seemingly the wind and water then came from all sides. When I quit work at 2 o'clock the next morning, I had to swim most of the way to house where my family was, and after staying there, we had to cut holes in the floor to prevent the waters lifting the house off its foundation."

"My own house was split in two and the halves taken to opposite directions. That night I looked up and saw a story and a half house sailing over my head, apparently with no sign of coming down."

"I understand that the wind Monday did not exceed 50 miles an hour, but the great flood, records showed that it reached a velocity of over 100 miles an hour. This was what cost the enormous loss of life, together with the fact that the sea wall had not been built to protect the town. I have never been back to Galveston since leaving there week after the big flood, and I remember most vividly all details of that time. I do not see how the city can be protected from the bay side, where the present storm came from. It seems absolutely imperative to leave the bay side open, in order to accommodate the shipping. I believe, however, that not even the great sea wall, or any work of man, could stand another storm like that of 1900. It was incredible, and even those who witnessed it could not comprehend the strength of the elements."

(Continued on Last Page)

THE WEATHER

Washington Forecast	
Mon. (today)	Clear, light breeze, 70 to 80.
Tues. (tomorrow)	Partly cloudy, 65 to 75.
Wed. (Aug. 19)	Partly cloudy, 65 to 75.
Thurs. (Aug. 20)	Partly cloudy, 65 to 75.
Fri. (Aug. 21)	Partly cloudy, 65 to 75.
Sat. (Aug. 22)	Partly cloudy, 65 to 75.
Sun. (Aug. 23)	Partly cloudy, 65 to 75.

SLATON WARNED NOT TO RETURN

Mayor of Atlanta Depicts Georgia Sentiment With Regard to Frank Case

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 18.—S. G. Woodward, mayor of Atlanta, Ga., in a speech at a banquet here last night, declared that Leo M. Frank, who was lynched Monday night, suffered the "just penalty for an unpardonable crime." The Atlanta mayor at the same time warned former Governor John M. Slaton, now in California, not to return to Georgia.

Mayor Woodward's address was at a banquet of the California State Association of Attorneys. Little or no applause greeted his remarks, although he was listened to with close attention. In the course of his speech Mayor Woodward said:

Straight From Shoulder

"I am going to take occasion tonight to tell of the events that have put Georgia on the map in a very undesirable light. I am going to endeavor to set you right. People throughout the United States have obtained their ideas of the Frank case from a pool of misand and subsidized press and propaganda."

"Common decency prevents me from telling you the revolting truths of the murder of Mary Phagan. I wish you all knew the truths as I know them. I know them, for I have been with the case ever since it started and I have read every line of evidence that was introduced, everything that has transpired. I know and I know that there is not a member of the jury that tried Leo M. Frank who, from the time it rendered the verdict to this day, has any idea that he would change his decision if put to the test again."

"There were only two people implicated in the death of Mary Phagan. I know the negro did not commit the deed and am positive that 75 per cent of the people of Georgia are convinced that the man lynched Monday night committed the deed and they are on the ground and ought to know."

"As mayor of Atlanta, I have received tons and tons of letters, petitions and requests asking that something be done for Frank and they have all gone into the wastebasket for, like all Georgia people who are in a position to get at the truth, I know the facts."

"I know Jack Slaton, have known him for thirty years, ever since he was a young man. I have been friends with him and, while I hate to say it, I would not advise him to return to Georgia for a year—if ever."

AIRCRAFT RAID LONDON SUBURB

Ten Persons Killed—One Zeppelin Hit But Not Brought to the Ground

LONDON, Aug. 18.—The outskirts of London were raided last night by Zeppelins. Several persons were killed. The damage to property was not important. Ten persons were killed in the air raid. One Zeppelin is believed to have been hit.

Thirty-six persons were injured. The raid was over the eastern counties of England.

OPPOSING RECEIVERSHIP

Robert E. Calloway, who with others was named as defendant in the suit wherein a receiver was named for the Bonfroy Investment company, Wednesday filed motion for a new trial in the district court. The defendants allege that irregular proceedings, abuse of discretion by the judge and errors in the trial entitle them to a rehearing. District Judge Hayson granted the receivership, and will probably pass upon the request for a new trial.

KOVNO FALLS; ALARM SPREADS

Germans on Eve of Crossing Niemen Thus Intercepting Russian Line

BERLIN, Aug. 18.—By wireless to paydine. The following announcement was made here officially today:

"The fortress of Kovno, together with all the forts and an amount of war material which has not been determined, has been in German hands since last night."

More than four hundred cannon were taken. The fortress was captured by storm in spite of the most strenuous resistance by the Russians.

Military experts have agreed that the loss of the fortress of Kovno would be a serious blow to the Russians. The "Times" of the London Times, in an article published this morning says:

"If the enemy succeeds in reducing Kovno and is thereby able to cross the Niemen he will be in the rear of the Russian line north of the Sventy, and with the junction of the two wings of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg's army, the position of the Russian right flank will be very difficult."

LONDON, Aug. 18.—The Russian army apparently have not been able to reorganize sufficiently to check the Austro-German advance, which is being pushed steadily against the ring of strong fortresses which form the outer defense to the Petrograd provinces. The armies of the central powers show no disposition to relax pressure on the eastern front, nor are they likely to do so until they have tried once more to separate the Russian northern and southern armies and capture the first Lithovian.

News from Turkish sources that the new landing party on the Gallipoli peninsula, near Suvla bay, has been engaged heavily is confirmed in an official report today from General Sir Ian Hamilton, the British commander at the Dardanelles front, stating that the British left had won five hundred yards of ground, including a Turkish trench.

Little change is reported in the diplomatic situation in the near east. Former Premier Venizelos of Greece, who asked for four days in which to study conditions before deciding whether to form a new cabinet, is believed to have arrived at an understanding with King Constantine, but it is not considered probable that the result will be the early entry of Greece into the war on the side of the entente allies.

CENTRAL TEXAS COTTON RUINED

Damage Vastly Estimated. Open Bolls Denuded by Wind and Rain

AUSTIN, Texas, Aug. 18.—Damage which will run into millions of dollars has been done to the cotton crop in Texas by the storms of Monday and Tuesday. Reports from towns in central Texas say that cotton open in the bolls has been blown out of the bolls and beaten into the ground by the heavy rains which accompanied it.

It is said that 50 per cent of all the cotton in this section was open, and that one-fourth to one-half of the open cotton was lost. On this calculation the damage will be from fifteen to twenty-five per cent of the entire cotton crop of central Texas.

THE PAID CIRCULATION of THE TIMES is 17,717 and is GROWING LIKE A WEED Over 8,000 go to RESIDENTS of OKLAHOMA CITY. This statement is guaranteed by the owners of THE TIMES. The paper that goes home.